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Piratical descents upon
Cuba

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AUTHENTIC NARRATIVE

OF

THE PIRATICAL DESCENTS UPON CUBA

MADE

By bords from the United States, headed by Narciso Lopez, a native of South America; to which are added some interesting letters and declarations from the prisoners, with a list of their names &c.

BY

William
THOMAS W. WILSON.

HAVANA

September 1851.

p. 430 R

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PIRATICAL DESCENTS ON CUBA.

Part. 1.

**From the flight of N. Lopez, from that island, in 1849, until
the conclusion of the affair in the Central Department.**

Having been requested by several friends, in different parts, to furnish them with a relation of the different occurrences that have taken place in the island of Cuba, during the last two years; in connection with the attempts of certain individuals in the United States, to effect a separation of the island from Spain, with the idea that annexation would soon follow that event, I find it necessary, in order to comply with all their requests, to publish a pamphlet, in which I give a succinct history of the principal events, from the escape of Lopez from Cuba, in 1849, until the day of his execution.

It is well known, that the annexation of Cuba has been a favorite subject of speculation, in the United States, during the last six or seven years; but how to effect the much desired object, was a very difficult matter for solution, until

the arrival of Narciso Lopez in the United States, who fled from Cuba, having been detected in a conspiracy against the government of that island.

Narciso Lopez, a Venezuelan by birth, in his youth, took up arms against his native country, in the revolutionary war, and upon the Spaniards retiring from Venezuela, he proceeded to Cuba, where he resided several years and married a rich and beautiful Cuban lady, whose fortune he dissipated at the gambling table, before her beauty was in the least impaired. In the late war in Spain, we find him there; where, through the influence of his wife's friends, he was rapidly promoted in those times of turmoil. In Spain his wife separated from him, on account of his conduct; and, in the army, although he had risen to the rank of General, his mode of procedure, both as a military man and a private individual was very indifferent. Some time after the conclusion of the war, he was sent to Cuba; where, at different periods, he had two offices conferred upon him; but was unable to retain either on account of his malversation. In regard to capacity, he was very inferior, and his morals, as may be conjectured, were of a very low cast. The gambling table reduced him to the low shift of borrowing money from every body of his acquaintance who would make him a loan, and his last few years in Cuba witnessed him an associate of the lowest characters in society. Finally, he became a traitor to the country that had bestowed upon him so many undeserved favors; and as I have before said, had to fly to the United States; where by those citizens who so much desire the annexation of Cuba, by any means; by those, who in spite of treaties, in spite of the laws of nations, and notwithstanding the profound peace existing between Spain and the United States, would take violent possession of Cuba, this bad man was received as a hero, as the champion of Cuban freedom; in the vain hope, that by his assistance the separation of the island from Spain might be effected. He was soon surrounded by those characters of his own stamp, who considered him a proper instrument to prepare the carrying out of their nefarious design, and the dissolute survivors of the Mexican war, crowded in hundreds to offer their services to him, in making a descent on the island; and, in the autumn of 1849, some hundreds of miserable beings, under the command of the self-created Colonel White, who had been, up to that time, a shopman

in a linen-draper's, a clerk in a dry-good store, were congregated together on Round Island, at the distance of about seventy miles from New-Orleans, preparatory to making the attempt. The government of the United States, however sent the corvette Albany to the scene of preparations, and this vagabond assemblage was broken up. The principal parties engaged in the affair, however, did not give up in despair, as in the business, nothing could they lose; whilst, whatever might happen, there would be a gain; therefore, they continued plotting during the winter of 1849 and 50, and by the middle of spring, had assembled several hundred men in New-Orleans. Arms were furnished from the public arsenals of the States of Louisiana and Mississippi; the public officers, whose duty it was to prevent the departure of the expedition, shut their eyes, and were deaf, until it had sailed, in two sailing vessels and a steamer, when they informed the government at Washington!

Undoubtedly, the officers of the general government in the South, have acted, in relation to these really piratical expeditions, in a manner highly dishonorable to themselves, as men, and as sworn officers of the United States' government; they have not only connived at the preparations of the Filibusters in every instance, but, have, in many instances, taken an active part in these preparations. Our honorable brethren in Europe, will consider this strange; not comprehending, how men entrusted with important places of trust, under a government, could be so base; but, a thorough acquaintance with the Americans will cause the wonder to cease, as the moral education of the American, is too loose in general, to allow him to see the enormity of this shameful conduct; and thus, alone, the censure of the European, who is educated, so as to appreciate honorable conduct, and despise the unprincipled, falls up on these unworthy officials.

Lopez, as it is pretty generally known, arrived at Cardenas, a place ninety miles to the eastward of Havana, containing between five and six thousand souls, at an early hour on the morning of the 19th of May 1850, in the steamer *Creole*. He landed before daylight, with about six hundred men, and the first movement he made, was to attack the house of the Governor; which, defended by about twenty five men, resisted all his efforts, until he set fire to it, when they had to surrender, after having killed and wounded upwards of fifty of the invaders. The remainder of the day,

was spent by Lopez, in a vain endeavour to gain over the natives to join his standard, for during the sixteen hours he remained in the place not a single Cuban joined him. In despair, he was about to embark in the afternoon, when that operation was accelerated, by a charge made by twenty one lancers, and a body of armed people from the country, numbering about fifty, and the approach of a company of infantry. From Cardenas he escaped as if by a miracle, leaving two of his number behind, who were publicly shot. In leaving the bay of Cardenas, the Creole grounded, a fortunate circumstance for Lopez, for, had the boat not been thus stopped, it would have been met by the Pizarro, Spanish war steamer, and all would have been taken prisoners. As it was, before the steamer could be got afloat, everything heavy had to be thrown overboard, and she arrived at Key West closely pursued by the Pizarro. At this place, Lopez abandoned the men of his band, to shift for themselves, and proceeded to Savannah, where he was met by the acclamations of the people, as if he were a hero, returned from war, after having performed some glorious exploit, rather than a miserable creature, flying, after having committed a heinous crime; so much for the *refined discrimination* of the American people. Lopez soon appeared in New-Orleans, where the same demonstrations were made, to the disgrace of its inhabitants; but, notwithstanding the sympathy of the South, for this degraded being, he was arrested, with his principal followers, by the United States' marshal of Louisiana, to undergo a trial, and the prosecution commenced, some months afterwards, with the trial of one of the members of the plot, one John Henderson, a lawyer. Henderson made his own defence, and played the innocent to a miracle; the jury never could agree, which caused the United States' attorney to enter a *nolle prosequi*, and thus the whole batch of prisoners was discharged. This event was considered by every body, as a tacit consent, of the authorities, to the carrying on of piratical expeditions, particularly against Cuba; and, as was expected, all hands immediately went to work to organize another band; and several hundred men from Georgia were gathered together in Florida, however, this gathering was dispersed by government, and the men returned to their homes, as they best could.

It was now considered that the Filibusters would desist for a season, but the silly purchasers of Cuban bonds, could

not put up with their first loss, and the want of money on the part of the chiefs of the plot instead of keeping them back, urged them on, to make another attempt, as whatever might be the fate of the expedition; they, in security at home, would have the handling of the money, raised for the purpose, and thus would gain something, even should their most sanguine hopes be frustrated.

To carry out a new expedition, a method was hit upon, to create a great excitement, and to silence, and even gain over, those who had objected to these expeditions, as there was no sign of any revolution in Cuba, and by these it was remarked, that the people of the United States, should wait until the people of Cuba should rise themselves to battle for their independence. The organs of the parties engaged in these piratical expeditions, described, all engaged in them as Lafayettes, who desired to go to Cuba, to assist the people to rid themselves of the government of Spain. Who are the people of Cuba? Are a few illbred families, with a little wealth, whose sons have commenced to keep their harlots at the age of twelve years, the friends of looseness, and some eighty or ninety scamps, in New York and New Orleans, the most of whom, have fled for debt or theft; are those the people of Cuba? Certainly not; but soon I will tell the reader, who are the people of Cuba; at present, let me continue the narration.

At the same time, that the organs of annexation lauded their own party to the utmost, they spared no abuse upon the Spaniards, and on the government of Spain; doing everything to make the name of Spaniard odious. They described the government of Cuba as tyrannical in the extreme, that the Cubans were a down-trodden people, groaning under oppressive laws, and loaded with heavy taxation; and said that the Cubans held no offices; in a word, with falsehood and exaggeration, the Filibuster papers did their utmost to make it appear to the world, that the Spaniards were the most oppressive and cruel of tyrants, and that the Cubans were the most unmercifully treated people on earth. In proof of this, read that despicable journal, the "Delta" of New Orleans and its echo, the "Courier," and the "Sun" of New York; which, for the last two years, have not ceased for a day to calumniate the Spanish government, and to paint the situation of the Cubans, in the most odious and imaginary manner. The journals mentioned, and many others, that is admitted on all sides;

but, they have acted as jackals to the *lions*, which showed themselves during the short space of time it was supposed, that the Cubans had risen, but which upon finding out their mistake, slunk back to their lairs.

The writers of these papers, it is unnecessary to say, are the worst of characters; but, in spite of all their mean tricks, to exasperate the lower classes against the Spaniards, so as to enable them, the better to carry out their design; in spite of all their falsehoods; facts were constantly revealed, which showed too plainly that they were merely the advocates and prompters of piracy. Under these circumstances, a bold stroke had to be played, to deceive the public, thus to create an excitement and get up another affair. Emissaries were sent to different parts of Cuba, to get up the appearance of an outbreak, and correspondents were sent to Havana, to furnish the papers of New Orleans with fabricated news, of a nature to excite the plebeians to the utmost, which they did to a wonderful degree, by writing a series of letters containing nothing but falsehoods, conceived and arranged in the grossest and most slovenly manner.

The emissaries sent out arranged the business, so, that the outbreak, such as it was, should take place on the fourth of July, an *auspicious* day. On the evening of that day, Joaquin Agüero y Agüero, a native and resident of Puerto-Príncipe, who had been concealed in the woods near the city, was joined by a party of hot headed youths, and by this handful of fools, the *standard of rebellion* was unfurled. The governor of Puerto-Príncipe, being aware of the mad project sent a party of lancers, consisting of twenty men, in pursuit of them, and this small force came in sight of the mad-caps, on the plains of Ganamaquilla, when a second battle of spurs took place. It was a dreadful bloody affair, the purple liquid ran down the horses sides, like perspiration, but the nags of the rebels, proving to be the fleetest, won the race, and the rebels escaped; leaving behind them, however, one of their number, whose saddle slipped, one Joaquin Agüero y Sanchez, a relation of Joaquin the chief. Besides the prisoner, many arms were taken, with a quantity of ammunition.

Agüero y Sanchez informed his captors, that his party was induced to rise, through the representations and persuasion of emissaries, from the United States, whose names he gave. The fugitives took the direction of Tunas, in the Eastern department, a town of two thousand inhabitants, with a

force estimated at from forty to sixty men. They entered the place, on the 8th of August, at about 3 o'clock in the morning, and the better to surprise the place, divided their force into two parties, so as to enter it, from opposite directions, but in the arrangement, the Devil or Punch must have had a finger in the pie, for upon meeting, through fear or mistake; they commenced firing upon each other, each party fancying he had met an enemy, after a few had been killed and wounded both parties fled, leaving their killed and wounded, with some horses and a quantity of arms, ammunition, clothing and money in the streets of the town. The news of this short comedy, was communicated without loss of time, to the Governor of the Eastern Departement, at Santiago de Cuba, who immediately proceeded to the scene of action, with two companies of the regiment of Isabel 2nd and a few lancers; and upon his arrival near Tunas, he sent Captain Joaquin Gil with a company of infantry, in pursuit of the rebels. The Captain, after a march of sixteen hours, came up with them, at San Carlos, where he attacked them. After a brief resistance, in which five of the rebels were killed, and three soldiers, the former took to flight, leaving fourteen horses and some arms and ammunition on the ground. The soldiers after their long march over a rugged country, and exposure to heavy rains, were not in a condition, to continue the pursuit, after mounted men; however, whatever might have been their condition, a pursuit would have been difficult; as, this attack broke up the party, and its members dispersed in all directions, and Joaquin Agüero y Agüero the chief, from that moment, the 13th of July, thought of nothing, but how he should effect his escape from the island; and, with six of his followers, proceeded towards the sea shore, in the direction of Nuevitas; in the hope of finding some vessel, in which to embark; but, Governor Lemery had several parties of soldiers out, scouring the country in that direction, to prevent anything of the kind, and a countryman having given information to Captain Conus, in the command of a party of infantry and a few lancers, that they were at a certain point; after a pursuit of five days, during which, the troops scarcely took rest, he found them out, and apprehended the ringleader Joaquin Agüero y Agüero and five others, after some resistance had been made, without loss on either side. The house in which they were concealed, is known by the name of La Punta de Ganado, and is situated on the Bay of Nuevitas,

and when Agüero found out that all was lost, he threw himself into the sea; but, was dragged out by a lancer, named Venancio Diez.

In this manner, in the course of twenty days, this pitiful got-up-for-the occasion outbreak was suppressed, and all its leaders taken prisoners; much to the satisfaction of the people, who spontaneously presented themselves to the authorities, offering their assistance, which indeed proved very acceptable, as they furnished information as to the whereabouts of the rebels, and supplied the troops with many necessities, when most wanted.—We will now leave the leaders of the little rebellion, in the custody of the authorities, to answer for their crime, and will proceed to notice other abortive attempts in other parts.

The news of the outbreak was made known in Puerto Principe, on the 5th of July; the ridiculous affair at Tunas took place on the 8th and on the 13th the attack on San Carlos dispersed the few persons who had risen, and by the 23rd all were prisoners. On the very day of the defeat at San Carlos, a body of armed men appeared on the plain, which extends from the farm of la Punta, towards the south of Santa Isabel, in the Partido of San Juan, to the south of Puerto Principe; but they had barely assembled, dragging some unwilling individuals along in their ranks, and frightening others to do so, when a panic seized them, and they dispersed like smoke.

In this manner ended the first act of this farcical rebellion, in Puerto Principe. In no part did the actors receive any favor, and without a single soldier in the jurisdiction, they would soon have been brought to summary justice, by the citizens themselves.

On the 24th of July, the day after the capture of Agüero y Agüero, A small affair took place in the Jurisdiction of Trinidad, where a brevet lieutenant colonel of the rural militia, one Jose Isidoro Armenteros, appeared at Yaguaramas with a body of armed men. The event soon become known to the authorities, and detachments of troops left Trinidad, Villa Clara and Cienfuegos in search of the rebels, and the country people soon flocked from all parts, to assist the troops. Armenteros was found near Sigüanea, where a charge made upon his party, by a small body of cavalry and infantry, in which no blood was spilt, put him and his followers to flight; when, gaining a dense forest at a short distance, they dis-

mounted and entered it, leaving their horses to the number of sixty five behind them, these were caught by the soldiers, and the rebels soon had to leave their hiding places, and beg for mercy: Armenteros was made prisoner by Lieutenant I. M. Espinosa of the regiment of Tarragona.

The alacrity with which the country people assembled to put down the rising, was truly admirable. The fact is, that the greater part of the persons whom Armenteros assembled together, were induced to do so, by deception, which he was able to practice upon them, holding as he did, the rank of Lieutenant Colonel of the militia; beside, amongst the prisoners taken are many mulattoes and blacks, which give a bad colour to the affair; and, this should be a warning to the people of the southern States of the American Union, whose family, a few *Philanthropists*, might put in hot water, and the brands they attempt to apply to Cuba, may set their own house in a blaze.

As had been foreseen, this outbreak was promptly suppressed; everybody comprehended its character, thus in less than twenty four days from its commencement, all the principal actors in it, were made prisoners. The Spanish soldiers with all that patience and endurance for which they are celebrated, in making long and painful marches, with an ill-supplied commissary, behaved admirably. In the genial climate of their own country, they could not have been more rapid in their movements. In this instance they had to traverse a rough and difficult country, over rocky hills and through dense forests, and pass innumerable streams, where, neither roads or bridges exist; exposed to the scorching sun of the tropics, and the deluging rains of the torrid zone. The difficulties they experienced, can only be conceived by those who have resided in these regions; moreover, the rebels were mounted, whilst the troops, for the greater part, were on foot; still, every difficulty was overcome in a surprising manner. In justice to the country people, it must be confessed, that through their hearty co-operation, the troops had their labors much lightened, and through their assistance, the affair was brought to an end, in the short space of time we have mentioned; and, the call of the rebels on the people to assist, or, rather join them; instead of having the effect they desired, only served as a signal for them, to take up arms to put them down; for every sensible Cuban, only sees safety in the support of the flag of Castile, that noble banner which has

floated over his dear island, for more than three centuries and a half, and when his Castillian brother is menaced, then it is, that with double force he feels himself a Spaniard, and ready to devote his life in the defence of the flag under which he was born; recent events testify the truth of that. Under the banner of Spain, the Cuban, undoubtedly, lives more happily and more free, than he could under any other; this any body can comprehend, who is at all acquainted with the island, and the character of its neighbors, and this has been asserted by honorable Americans, who have visited this island, and made themselves acquainted with its inhabitants; and it is my own conclusion, after having studied everything in relation to the island for years.

Upon the capture of the leaders, engaged in this ill-advised outbreak, military commissions, were appointed in Puerto Principe and Trinidad, and on the 8.th of August, Armenteros and his followers were tried before a military tribunal, in the latter city; and he and two others were condemned to death, and shot on the 18.th of August; and, eleven others, to imprisonment beyond the sea, for terms, varying from two to ten years; with a prohibition to return to the island. In Puerto Principe, the prisoners were tried on the 9.th of August, and sentence of death, was passed, on Joaquin Agüero y Agüero and three others who were executed on the 12.th of August. They were condemned to die by the garrote, but there being no public executioner in Puerto Principe, they were shot. The rest of the guilty were sentenced to imprisonment for ten years. Thus ended an affair, which in the United States, through a corrupt press was represented as a revolution, similar to that of the British colonies in 1775.

Part. 2.nd

Lopez's last Expedition.

In the first part of this narrative, the reader was informed, that the press of the United States, which took a prominent part in advocating the occupation of Cuba by violent means, had sent correspondents to Havana, in anticipation of the outbreak, in the Central Department; which was brought about by the emissaries of the annexionists. These miserable wretches, by the instructions of their superiors in the United States, in opposition to all truth; by the very steamers which took to New York and New Orleans, accounts of the entire failure of the puerile demonstration in the jurisdiction of Puerto Principe, sent whole budgets of statements, in which they gave the petty affair, all the importance of a revolution; but, as may be seen in referring to the papers containing these statements, they never touched upon a single fact. The correspondence of these despicable scribblers, was nothing more nor less than a tissue of falsehoods; in which every absurd and improbable rumor was interwoven with the grossest fabrications; but, notwithstanding that the information contained in these letters was of the most absurd and contradictory nature, and each writer told a different tale; in the United State, the vulgar and prejudiced Americans preferred these false reports, to the simple truth, which dissipated all their vain hopes. In these fictions, the force of the rebels, was variously stated to be, 5000,—3338,—2600,—1600 and some were *modest enough*, to state it at 800, always posted, in the *inaccessible* mountains of Cascorro; when, it was well known, throughout the island, that not a single individual was in arms against the government. But, the tales of hard fought battles, in which lancers perished by eighties, and the infantry by hundreds; in which rafts were set afloat in

rills, and capsized, and soldiers drowned by scores, or made use of to disembark troops from the Spanish fleet, in the Bay of Nuevitas, and were destroyed with the whole host of Spaniards upon them! these stories above all, were received by the *intelligent Americans*, of all classes, as so many truths. In fact, no trash was too absurd to relate to them, when of a nature to favor their ardent desire, whilst the slightest truth, which was unfavorable to it, was scouted, and the utterer of it denounced as a traitor, and pointed out to the mob, as a fit subject for judge Lynch. Even those journals which are considered the most decent and respectable, in the heat of the moment, when the first news was received, and the island considered within the clutches of the Eagle, and calculations in regard to the spoils, flitted through the brains of their respectable and sapient writers; even these, with a few honorable exceptions, let fall their masks, and revealed their horrible features; denouncing the official documents of the Spanish Government in Cuba, as so many inventions to hide the true state of affairs. The most conspicuous amongst the base, hypocritical prints of the South, was the *respectable* "Bee" of New Orleans, which attacked the Spaniards in the most bitter language and published all the trash contained in the filthy "Picayune" and "Delta", and urged on the people, to go to Cuba, and incited the inhabitants of New Orleans, to demolish the Spanish paper "La Union."

The correspondence of these base papers, with their incendiary editorials, had the desired effect; and as it was asserted, that the greater part of the soldiers had gone over to the people, and that two thirds of the Island were in possession of the rebels, the people were worked up to the highest pitch of excitement, and every fool declared his determination to go over to Cuba, to exterminate the odious Spaniards, and to give freedom to the Cubans; whilst, not a single fool or knave, expressed this determination, without calculating how much he could make by the speculation. Such is the spirit of the Laffayetes of the United States. A nineteen years' residence in the New World, during which I have seen much of the inhabitants of the American republic, leaves me under the conviction, that they are the most heartless people on earth, and that all their movements are made with the hope of gain; generosity, they know not. I might here add, many unfavorable opinions

I have in regard to them; but, forbear, that I may continue with what is immediately connected with the expedition.

Meetings were called in New Orleans, and throughout the whole United States; and in every wretched hamlet, some miserable demagogue arose to harangue the ignorant. The first meeting in New Orleans, was held on the 23^d of July, when it was publicly determined to send off an armed expedition to Cuba. During this meeting, which was held in Lafayette Square, the foul-mouthed demagogues, in that vulgar strain, peculiar to the Americans, expended every low epithet against the Spaniards, that they considered most suitable to fan the flame of prejudice, in the breasts of the herd, against that people. Ay, and they threatened to do most *terrible* things too, against Spain, which they have not courage to do; and, some silly, ignorant hags, in a meeting, in an inland town; probably called together, for the purpose of rubbing snuff on their teeth, chewing tobacco, and smoking the rankest of the weed, accomplishments, for which the women of the Southern States, old and young, are notorious, came to the terrible resolution, of exterminating the whole Spanish race! probably, calculating it would be an easy matter so to do, with their *sweet* breaths, as an auxiliary in their destruction. Poor silly women, fit companions of their conceited lords! Heaven pity their ignorance!

The result of the excitement, the meetings, the resolutions, the desire to shed Spanish blood, and above all the desire to ravish lovely Cuba, was the enlistment of about a thousand men, during the last week in July, some seven or eight hundred of which, were crammed into the Steamer Pampero, which sailed from New Orleans, early on the morning of the third of August. After sending back, about one hundred and fifty of the men, which she could not carry, the steamer left the Balize, at the mouth of the river, on the 6th of August; after which, nothing was heard of her, in New Orleans, until the expiration of about two weeks; news were then received, that Lopez had made a landing at a place, a few miles to the westward of Bahía Honda. Upon the receipt of this news, salvos of artillery were fired, and every demonstration made, as if some grand victory had been gained. This exultation was of short duration, however; the steamer Empire City arrived from Havana, bring the news of the destruction of Crittenden's party, and of his execution with forty nine of his companions. This information, which it was impossible to

contradict; quite disconcerted the principal parties engaged in the getting up of the expedition, who finding the people much excited and enraged, and being fearful that their wrath might fall upon themselves, for their rascality in the business, they to satisfy their own desire for revenge, and to turn the indignation of the people away from themselves, determined to direct an attack upon the inoffensive Spaniards resident in the city. To give a commencement to this barbarous outrage, placards were posted in the most conspicuous places in the city, inviting the citizens to assemble at 4 P. M. to destroy the Printing office of the Spanish paper "La Union," and to Lynch its editors.

For a long time back the filibusters had desired to destroy that journal, and Bayon the proprietor of the "Courier" in public, early in the spring, said, that it was necessary to break up, "La Union" by some means, as it frustrated all the plans of the Filibusters. Further, for some days past, it had been determined to attack the office, but as it was well defended at the time appointed, the attack was deferred. The mayor was made acquainted with the intentions of the people, and on the morning of the 21st of August, when the bad news for the Filibusters arrived, and it was determined to attack the poor Spanish journal, he was made aware of everything, by an early hour; but, he was determined to let his countrymen have their dastardly revenge upon the Spanish paper, little expecting that it would lead to the destruction of other property, for which the city of New Orleans or the federal government must pay.

In regard to the hour mentioned, for the meeting, to attack "La Union," that was a mere ruse, to put the people of that paper, off their guard; the attack was made at 2½ P. M., when it was expected at nightfall, when a determined resistance would have been made; a few dozen of the mob slain, as at the Astor house riot in New York, and there would have ended the matter. As it was, but two males were on the premises; therefore, the attack was made with impunity, and everything was destroyed in the office, with the exception of a small press, which was stolen, and taken to the "Delta" where, in the office of that paper, it reminds Lawrence Sigur, that Lopez was garroted, and suggests, that, that may be his own fate too. In that office, also, are many of the books and documents stolen from the Spanish Consulate, for which Sigur will have to pay dearly. The ruffianly canaille, which

destroyed the Spanish paper, was composed of lawyers, and other people in broadcloth, headed by a drunken alderman, of the third municipality; who, after they had finished there, marched to the Spanish Consulate; where they completely sacked the house, carrying off every document; some of which, were read afterwards, in the principal saloons of the élite, of that savage people. Besides that, the portrait of the Queen of Spain was riddled with pistol shots, and the flag of Spain was trodden under foot, and afterwards, as it would not burn, it was torn into a thousand pieces. These barbarous outrages, which would disgrace Barbary, were succeeded by attacks on a large number of other establishments kept by Spaniards, which were completely destroyed; and, an eye-witness, a French gentleman, a man of honor, assured me, that he saw the lawyers of New Orleans, filling their hats and pockets, at the sack of Romagosa's handsome cigar establishment.

The press and the parties which incited the people to these barbarous doings; which, yet, will be returned upon the American people, in a manner to make the whole nation writhe in pain and anguish, have since, in the most unblushing manner, made an indecent attack upon General Concha, for having, according to law; wisely, ordered the execution of Crittenden and his men. The gallant and humane Captain General, for doing his duty, however unpleasant, for the protection of his charge; by these low writers, was called a monster of cruelty, a bloody tyrant; and, in fact, every foul term in the vocabulary of abuse, was heaped upon him, by those very scoundrels, who had shipped off, in the most cold-blooded manner, their own friends and countrymen, to a certain death; all for the sake of a few dollars. Was it because Crittenden was the nephew of the Attorney General, that he was not to be shot? Let the people of the United State be undeceived, pirates of whatever nation, or whatever may be their connection at home, in making cowardly descents on the island of Cuba, will meet the same fate, that they would, should they make a descent on Louisiana, or Great-Britain. Did not Crittenden and his companions, during a time of profound peace, land in Cuba, and without provocation shed Spanish blood? What then could be expected, but that their heinous crime should be expiated, by the forfeiture of their lives, according to the laws of all nations? Undoubtedly they were deceived by Lopez, Sigur and other scoundrels,

but at the same time, they knew, that in taking up arms against Spain, that they did so, against a nation, with which the United States is at peace, and were aware, that by so doing they became pirates, and that the penalty of piracy, is death. The young men of the expedition, therefore, may say what they choose, about being deceived; the fact is, they were rather deceived in their hopes, and their expectation to carry everything before them, than deceived in any other manner; for, if two thirds of the inhabitants were in arms, and the principal part of the troops had gone over to them; according to the Filibuster reports, what necessity was there then, to send any assistance from New Orleans? But, it was that offer of four thousand dollars to each, and the silly idea, that one American is equal to ten Spaniards, in battle, that did the business; but, perhaps now, that some experience has been gained, a different calculation will be made in future.

If pirates taken prisoners, should be treated as prisoners of war, then the island would soon swarm with them; it would be worse to contend against them, than to contend against a half a dozen United States, in open war. If no risk were to be incurred, then every loafer in the United States, would come to the island, either to rob the coffers of the rich, or ravish the women; therefore, pirates who shall land in the island of Cuba, for the future, will meet with no quarters; and if that should not suit the taste of the people of the *model* republic, let them openly declare war, and let Spain have a chance to capture her fleets of merchant vessels. As for Cuba, Spain, now, has no fear; all its inhabitants are Spanish, and no force that the United States can send to the island, could wrest it from her. This is no brag. What was the force of veterans, that Napoleon sent to St Domingo, to fall before the yellow fever and a few blacks?

In regard to General Concha, his duty compelled him to have the fifty men shot, he had not to consult his feelings, but his duty. It is not a pleasant thing to order men to be executed; but, mercy to pirates, is cruelty towards those whom they attack. Concha with that humanity for which he is remarkable, has spared about two hundred of the men. In the United State, where they lynch people, and burn negroes, not one would have escaped. Jackson hung two Englishmen he found in Florida during the Indian war, and Washington hung André; still, I never have heard any American, accuse either Jackson, or Washington of cruelty.

Surely, if the blood of Crittenden and his companions calls for vengeance, that of General Ena and seventy other brave Spaniards, who fell in the different encounters, does so also, with much greater reason. The Americans, before they accuse others of cruelty, must consider their own atrocities, and not forget, that by their barbarous deeds, they have placed themselves below the most savage tribes; and, before this shall be denied, let it be answered, what excuse can palliate the conduct of the people of Mobile, lately, towards a party of shipwrecked Spaniards, whom they would have hung, had they not made their escape, breaking through two or three houses, and thus escaping to the water, where they embarked, onboard of a small vessel.

To return to the history of the expedition; the circulation of the false reports in the United States, caused the people in Cuba, immediately to suspect that another expedition was in preparation in New Algiers; therefore, no surprise was caused by the news of Lopez and his horde having landed at Playitas, at the distance of twenty six leagues to the westward of Havana. The first information received in the city, was, that a suspicious steamer was seen in that direction, and this was confirmed by the crew of a schooner, which arrived in Havana; which reported that the people of the Pampero, had taken the master and a seaman from her by force, to pilot the steamer along the coast.—On the 12th of August at 7 A. M., about six hours after Lopez had landed at Playitas, the steamer of war Pizarro left Havana, with the admiral of the station and seven companies of infantry onboard, under the command of General Ena; at the same time, a smaller division, under the command of Colonel Morales de Rada, started for San Antonio by Railroad, where it was joined by a body of cavalry.

Upon the same day that the Pizarro left Havana, information was received in the city, that the pirates had effected a landing, and had proceeded in the direction of Las Pozas, where the Captain of the partido and some country people had made preparations to oppose them.

Onboard of the Pizarro, as soon as it became known, in what direction, the invaders had gone, the troops were landed; this happened at about ten at night; soon after which, General Ena, with three companies; in all, about two hundred and forty men, proceeded to Las Pozas. Three

companies under Villaoz proceeded along the coast, and one was left at Bahía Honda. After marching all night, Ena came in sight of Las Pozas, at an early hour, on the 13th of August, where he found the enemy strongly entrenched, in a position that offered every facility for making a good defence; but, notwithstanding this, and the superiority of the number of the invaders, Ena determined to attack the place, and for that purpose, directed Captain Llorens with a company belonging to the regiment of Leon, to reconnoiter; for that, it was necessary to spread out his men. The enemy kept under cover until he came within the distance of half a musket shot, when they covered the houses and opened fire upon him; he ordered his men to return the fire, but after the first discharge, such was their desire to close with the enemy, that he had to order a charge with bayonets; and this company by itself, actually attacked five times its own number, and with such success, that had the other two companies followed in the same path, the place would have been taken possession of; but, the other two companies fell into an ambush, in their approach; which, in a moment changed the favorable aspect the battle bore but a moment before, for the assailants; a retreat was feigned, to bring the enemy out; it did so, when the Spaniards wheeled about and charged with bayonets, killing ten of the enemy on the spot. The invaders got under cover again, and as Ena found that they were able to pick off his men, without his fire doing them much harm, he wisely ordered his men to fall back, out of gunshot.

The Spaniards were unfortunate in this attack, but, it at least shows, that the company of Leon, that went to the attack, was a company of Cœur de Lions; and it must not be forgotten, that besides the disparity of numbers, the Spaniards being two hundred and forty, against about four hundred, the Spanish troops had been on foot twenty six hours, without sleep, having marched all the previous night; whilst, the enemy had the advantage of a night's rest, and were in a strong position, under cover. It is very probable that, had not the troops been fatigued, Lopez's band would have been completely spoiled for another encounter; as it was, with the loss of thirty killed; and about the same number wounded, his men became quite disanimated, and asked him innocently, where were the troops that were ready to join him, and whether those were the men, who had attack

ed him so fiercely; and, whether the inhabitants that had fired on them, on landing, were those [that were in arms against the government. He made excuses, and endeavoured to make them believe that he should find the patriots in the mountains, where he did find them, to his sorrow, for they not only tracked him, and cut off his stragglers but at last delivered him up to justice.

Amongst the killed, on the part of the invaders, was the Hungarian Pragay, and a Colonel Downer. The wounded on the part of Ena, was great, being upwards of a hundred soldiers, that is, including the slain; and nine officers, of which, one died.

Ena took up a position near the enemy, but being much taken up in taking care of his wounded, the enemy slipped off during the night, quite satisfied with this taste of Spanish valor, leaving all their wounded to take care of themselves.

In the afternoon of the same day, one of the companies under Villaoz, attacked Colonel Crittenden's party; or, rather, one of the three companies of which it was composed. The noise of the firing brought the other two companies up. They came along shouting and howling, in imitation of the Chinese, who endeavour to frighten their enemies with noise; but, the captain in command of the Spanish troops, understanding the men he had to deal with, told his men to reserve their fire, until they could make sure of their mark, and when they got quite near, they gave them such a volley, that it quite silenced the howling, and then with a charge with the bayonet, drove them into the yard of the inn, which was surrounded by a strong fence. The Spanish company then took a position on a neighboring height, from which it opened fire, doing some execution. In the mean-time two other companies of Spanish troops came up, and soon afterwards they were ordered to join Ena. By all accounts, one company of Crittenden's command joined Lopez, whilst the other two, with himself, endeavoured to escape by sea. It appears that he had another encounter, in which his command was dispersed; and after that, he embarked with fifty men in four launches; but, as is known, he was captured with all, and taken to Havana, and executed, after a brief trial, according to law, on the 16th of August. Many pitied them on account of their youth; but, it was necessary for the good of society, and the security of the country, that they should pay the penalty of their crime. From these prisoners it was learned, that the

band was quite disheartened, which accounted for their own flight. Crittenden said that he had been grossly deceived by Lopez, who had assured him that the people were up in arms, and ready to co-operate with them; whereas, not a single person had joined them; but, on the contrary, both men and women had fled from their houses, at their approach; and the country people were the first to attack them. Others regretted that Laurence Sigur of the "Delta" was not with them, to share their fate, which in truth he well merits; for, the death of some five hundred of his countrymen, lays at his door, for he sent them to destruction, to serve his own sordid views.

After the escape of the pirates from Las Pozas, General Ena was joined by two columns, under the command of Brigadier Rosales and Colonel Morales de Rada, whilst another under the command of Colonel Elizalde was approaching the scene of strife, by forced marches from Pinal del Rio; so as to cut off the retreat of the invaders, who on account of the mountainous and broken character of the country, found it no difficult matter to escape from those who attacked them. The stragglers, however, were cut off by the country people, or shot by the soldiers.

On the 17th of August, the forces under Ena and Rosales had almost surrounded the enemy, and had it not been for an unpreconcerted attack, made by a body of country people, the pirates could not have escaped, but this inconsiderable attack, made them aware of their danger, and in flying by the only road open to them, they passed near to where General Ena was, with only eighteen chasseurs; at whom they directed a passing volley, and without their being aware of it, they mortally wounded General Ena. This circumstance, naturally caused some delay, during which the enemy made good his retreat.

By the death of General Ena, a brave officer was lost to Spain, and the command fell on Brigadier Rosales; however, to the brave and indefatigable Elizalde, the happy lot fell, of giving the blow to the pirates, from which they could not recover, and this was due to his superior activity. He only thought of getting at the enemy; therefore, with him, there were no unnecessary delays, that are frequent with the timid. On the 21st of August before daybreak, Elizalde left Bahía Honda with his forces, in the midst of a storm, that alone would make the day memorable: the rain fell in torrents and the wind almost blew a hurricane. He directed his march

with all possible haste to a farm, known by the name of La Candelaria, where the invaders were posted. The place was very difficult of approach, but the enemy not expecting visitors on such a day, were not altogether prepared to receive the gallant Elizalde with those honors which are customary. The attack was almost a complete surprise, the pioneers killed the advanced guard with the bayonet, and the whole force attacked them in front and flank, with such celerity, that Lopez in his shirt sleeves, after the first volley, gave the example of flight. Two discharges of the mountain artillery ended the battle; as, pursuit after an enemy, which fled at a race-horse speed, was almost impossible, upon the spot where they took to their heels. The pirates left thirty of their number dead, around the house in which they were attacked, and their loss in the retreat, or rather flight, must also have been considerable. The enemy left their provisions, baggage, horses, and forty one muskets and some ammunition, in the hands of the victors. The muskets and ammunition were used in arming the country people, without arms, who had come out to assist the troops.

The loss of the Spaniards, was five killed, and one captain, one lieutenant and seventeen soldiers wounded; also, the brave Elizalde, who was wounded in the side; but he kept to his horse, until all was over; when, the weather continuing stormy, and his ammunition being much injured by the rain, he took up his quarters in the neighboring town of Aguacate, for the moment, to refresh his men; leaving the country people to hunt up the dispersed invaders, and to track those who should keep together in a considerable body.

The twenty first of August 1851 will be remembered on many accounts, in different parts. In Cuba on account of the violent storm, and the rout of the Flibusters; and, in New Orleans, on account of the news, which blasted the hopes of the fomenters of piratical expeditions against Cuba; which fatal news, led the people of New Orleans to show to the world; that, of all the despicable barbarians in creation, they are the lowest in the scale of civilization; also, the news led to the memorable resolution of the snuff-rubbing and pipe smoking virgins and matron of a certain town in the U. S., which was nothing less than to exterminate the whole Spanish race, which resolution, like those made by the male population, discovers the Americans to

be, a conceited, ignorant set of fools, that one day will be brought to their senses, by a good drubbing, from one of those nations, the people of which have stronger nerves than they have themselves.

Whilst the movement of Elizalde was taking place, on the north side of the island, Sanchez who was approaching from the South, met the remnant of Lopez's band, in a narrow path, in the mountains near "El Rosario." His men were able to march, only in Indian file, nevertheless, he attacked them with the bayonet; the enemy made one discharge, and then fled, leaping headlong down precipices, and in a few minutes, they were completely dispersed leaving fifteen of their number dead on the spot, and forty muskets. This attack took place on the 24th of August at 5 P. M. and the setting of the sun, beheld the dissolution of the expedition, which here received its *coupe de grace*. The country people, and the negroes employed on the estates, caught those that fled, and took them to the different towns, after the order for quarters to be given was received in the country.

Thus it was, that the *noble* host, which although only five or six hundred strong, considered itself equal to ten times its number, whilst in the neighborhood of the Verandah bar, in New Orleans, and under the influence of potations, of which the Americans are very fond, and from which they derive much Dutch courage; thus it was, I say, at the end of three weeks from the time it left New Orleans, three hundred of its number at least, were, where all pirates should be, and the rest were scattered about, subsisting on roots and water; awaiting their turn to be hunted up, and brought to Havana; and they that were first caught underwent less hardships and misery, than the last.

From the number of Americans taken, there must have been more than the number said to have landed, which Victor Kerr and others stated at five hundred and fifty.

The capture of Lopez, took place on the 29th of August. and a Cuban was his capturer, one D. Antonio Santos Castañeda. He was seated upon a rock his pistols in his girdle, but he had not courage to put one to his head, and blow his brains out, preferring to live a few hours longer, and die in the manner a traitor should. Lopez has been described by the "Delta" of New Orleans as a hero, and as a martyr; but, as the majority of mankind, who have heard anything

about Lopez and Sigur, believe that both were infamous, and one is still so, what the "Delta" says in regard to his heroism and martyrdom, is of little consequence.

This invasion, at a great sacrifice of life indeed, will serve to show to the people of the United States, in a positive manner, that the Cubans are loyal Spaniards, and want no Americans to introduce themselves as friends into the island, afterwards to rob them of their property. Lopez wandered about in search of his friends, seventeen days, without one Cuban having joined his band; in fact, as all the prisoners assure us, the Cubans were the first to attack them. Lopez nearly fell by the hands of his own men, and they only spared his life, that their case might not be worse. It will show, also, to the Americans, that, if rifle bullets, from behind bushes, are fatal, that bright bayonets can pierce backs, and that a view of them, somewhat deranges the sight of American riflemen, when they are come-at-able; and, if this essay, of bravery, on part of the Spaniards, does not convince the Americans that the Spaniards are their match, in the field, the next encounter will, most assuredly; however, we do not see how the Spaniards and Americans will meet in battle again very soon, as now that the Cubans have shown their adhesion to the Spanish Government, in so decided and so enthusiastic a manner, the barefaced Americans will not be able to publish tales about revolutions in Cuba, with any effect, and thus they will not be able to invade the island under pretence of going to assist a people, struggling for freedom, and the American Lafayettes, will have to return to their original occupation, known as the loafing and sponging business, for which the natives, nine out of ten, seem to be expressly made. Should they not desist, however, they will soon have Europe, to a nation, upon them, to the great loss of the overgrown, stained and bloated republic, in ships and in trade and commerce. As it is, an invasion, made by the people of a nation, which has not declared war against Spain, upon her territory, in which 71 Spaniards have been killed and 174 wounded, cannot go unpunished; nor can the outrages practiced on her subjects, and upon her Queen in the person of her Consul at New Orleans, be passed over in silence; for, however trifling these matters may appear to the rude, unprincipled, insensible American, the honorable and sensitive European sees the enormity of such crimes too plainly, not to seek for redress.

In conclusion, with the death of Lopez, who was executed on the 1.st of September in Havana, the whole business of this invasion ended, so far as the troops were concerned, and they returned to their quarters. Rejoicings have been the order of the day throughout the island, and in Havana a subscription, opened for the relations of the killed, and the wounded, has already reached, upwards of a hundred and sixty thousand dollars; and as money is the touchstone of public opinion, this is a substantial proof of the inclination of the Cubans, which is, that CUBA SERA SIEMPRE ESPAÑOLA.

FINIS.

LETTERS AND DECLARATIONS.

In order to furnish the friends of good order, and the lovers of truth, with all possible information, on the subject of the late affair in this island, I publish two letters, written by one of the prisoners, one Charles N. Horwell, of Virginia, a printer, Aged 23 years. It was the youth's desire that they should be published here, for which reason I make use of them; also a declaration, made by James St Levi of Quebec, aged 16 years, and another from T A Laine of Cuba; and, in conclusion I give á list of the names of the prisoners, the survivors of those who embarked in the rash and infamous expedition.

Bahía Honda Cuba, August 31.st 1851.

EDITORS TRUE DELTA.

This epistle you will receive directed from the above garrison. It may strike you as rather strange that your correspondent should be in quarters of á Spanish army, but so it is. The whole expedition under the notorious Lopez has been broken up, and your humble servant a prisoner of war abiding the clemency of the Spanish government. From the moment I placed my feet upon the deck of the Pampero, I saw all was not *right*. Something told me that the abominable getters-up of the last CARDENAS affray, were prominent in this too; but ere I had time to form my scattered thoughts into proper ideas, we were hurried away from the levee and were hurried on our intended way.

Seven or eight days we were tossed about before we landed, and when we did it was at Morrillo, a little harbor on the northern coast of CUBA, with just water enough to anchor a vessel drawing nine feet and a quarter, or it may be more, at the distance of a mile from the shore. From

this point Lopez with four companies took up the line of march from LAS POZAS, a town commanding a pass to the mountains, and about twelve miles from Morrillo. He had not arrived, however, and fairly settled down, before he was attacked by a detachment of troops, sent on from Havana. In the engagement he lost many of his best officers and men. The Spanish troops fought with indomitable courage, and though Lopez held the place until about midnight it is my firm conviction that he tremblingly did so, only to await the arrival of the remaining three companies, under the command of colonel CRITTENDEN. But, alas! two of the three never arrived, only one reached him, and that did so by abandoning its position, and by such a series of marching and counter marching, as never a Scott or a Taylor dreamt of.

When Crittenden, with his command, reached the extent of about six miles from Morrillo, they were attacked. The first intimation of the enemy was the whiz of the fatal bullet. Capt. Kerr's company, had gone on in the van, and were refreshing themselves in a tavern hard by the road, when the Spanish troops attacked them from the chapparel. The two remaining companies hearing the firing, quickly came up; they were several hundred yards from the tavern at the time. In spite, though, of all we could do, we could not maintain our position. The well armed and well drilled troops of *old Spain*, proved more than a match for us; we were bound to succumb. The command left in charge of the baggage, and to cover the rear of the two companies, which had gone further ahead for the ostensible purpose of attacking the enemy, found itself unable to hold its own, and beat a retreat, in double quick time, over hill and dale, for more desirable quarters. Happening to be one of this latter crowd, I fancy that I can speak correctly. We reached Lopez; Crittenden never did. His fate I know not of.

With the evacuation of Las Pozas, commenced our sufferings. You well know that before leaving New Orleans, we were induced to believe that the inhabitants of Cuba desired our cooperation in the so-called cause of their independence. Independence, forsooth!! It is well to preach up the sufferings of the wronged Cuban at so good a distance from his shore. I have suffered more attempting to find out those who suffered here, than I ever did in all my life before. I have seen nothing but peace and plenty here; the veriest

slave lives better than has any of the deceived young men, who accompanied the *soldisant* General Lopez, to this island. As I have remarked, with our evacuation of LAS POZAS and entrée into the mountains, our troubles commenced heading. Headed on all sides, we had nothing to do, but go up one mountain and march down the other side, for the simple purpose, the next day, of counter marching the distance. Tired, jaded, worn out, nothing but regrets escaped the lips of the men at every step, that they had embarked in so unholy an enterprise. The fact became every day more apparent to them, that they had been duped; the patriots who awaited their arrival on the shores of Cuba, existed only in the corrupt ideas of those men who remained at home, and sent others to do what they dare not do. At last they began one by one to throw their guns aside, and heave their ammunition into every gully. The sea shore! was the constant cry. Take us once more to the sea shore, and we will endeavour to reach home! The final defeat though came; and some were allowed the small chance of reaching the sea shore, before reaching which, however, many have ere this perished. If I mistake not, 'twas on the 24.th of August, late in the afternoon, when we came upon a body of Spanish troops, near the termination of a long mountain road. We immediately retraced our steps, but were quickly attacked in the rear, and were forced by bullet and bayonet, to bring our feet to the ground to the time of Yankee Doodle as played in Strakosch's quickest time. This was the winding up of the Lopez expedition. He was taken prisoner, and is now in the Morro at Havana. His fate is sealed, and with it, I hope will ever rest all the trouble and disquietude which a few restless men have vainly endeavoured to bring upon the contented inhabitants of the island of Cuba.

I address you these hurried lines with the intention of extending them to a greater length, when time and the hoped for clemency of the Spanish Government shall have been extended me. Your remarks editorially to young men, to beware of enterprises of this nature against Cuba, as well as the admonitions of *La Union*, were often talked and thought of; I am only sorry that your suggestions were not more duly appreciated by hotheaded young men.

The gentlemanly commander of this place, has politely favored me with pen ink and paper, but fatigue and exposure prevent my being more prolix at present. If I am ena-

bled so to do, I will show up this expedition and the motives of its leaders to their discomfort.

N. B. Let me not fail to mention, that the greatest kindness shown me, has been by the true and loyal subjects of this island of Cuba. They have fed, partially clothed, and treated me humanely. Long live they! say I. Adios.

At another time, I hope to be able to give you a concise history of the late campaign of *Lopez*. Be sure and send a paper to the commander of the garrison at Bahia Honda, and one to myself, containing this letter, and oblige

Yours, ever

(signed) Charles N. Horwell.

Mess.^{rs}

John Maginnis & Co

Editors "True Delta"

N. Orleans.

Havana Cuba September 4.th 1851.

MESS.^{RS} EDITORS: Having promised to favor you (or, it may be to trouble you) with another letter, acquainting you with our whereabouts, particulars &c. in regard to the late forray, upon one of the possessions of Her Spanish Majesty, I will proceed to particularize as laconically as possible, the facts as they occurred, from the moment we landed, until our delivery into the hands of the Cuban Authorities.

Our point of debarkation was at Morrillo. We landed (near five hundred of us) about midnight, and without opposition, save the firing of a single musket upon the first boat which landed her troops. At Morrillo three companies were left for two days, numbering about one hundred or one hundred and ten men; they formed the rear guard, to protect the baggage train. About three hundred and eighty or ninety men proceeded the same night of landing to las Pozas, under the command of General Lopez. This latter party reached las Pozas, and remained there nearly two days. The morning of the second day they were attacked by a Spanish force of regular troops, which the Americans resisted with doubtful issue for several hours; the number of

killed and wounded was considerable on both sides; the exact number I cannot state. We lost a large number of our best and bravest men. Among the number, I may mention Colonel Downer, killed; Captain Goytay mortally wounded: Capt. Bingham, wounded and I believe, since dead Lieut Labuzan killed, and several of Lopez's aids wounded and not since been heard of. Having no transportation, it became imperious on Lopez to leave the wounded who could not follow, behind; this accounts for my ignorance of the fate of the men rendered useless. I might here remark, was such a thing ever heard of in the annals of everything pretending to generalship, to leave the disabled of an army to take care of themselves? You may judge what the thoughts of the men have been, at seeing their brother companions left neglected behind, and the same fate probably awaiting themselves. The Spanish troops finally retired in good order, and Lopez between 11 and 12 o'clock at night evacuated the place, and retired through the pass, into the bosom of the mountains.

Early on the morning of the day Lopez was attacked, the men left at Morrillo, started with the baggage train, consisting of two wagons, drawn by four oxen each, for Las Pozas. The escort was under the command of Crittenden, the companies respectively under the command of Captains Kelly, Saunders and Victor Kerr. We travelled at the rate of about a mile an hour, every hundred yards the oxen refusing to draw, and the Americans expending a great many oaths and useless blows from the butts of their muskets, upon the backs of the weary animals. Well, by dint of blows and hard swearing, and the throwing from the wagons a large quantity of dead weight, in the shape of carpet bags and trunks belonging to those who expected to dress in patent leather boots and the latest French style of clothing, we reached about half our journey, and determined to go no further until more oxen could be procured. With this determination, we halted with the exception of Kerr's company, which proceeded about half a mile to an inn, where we sent a detachment to get more cattle. In about an hour, the men were aroused from their short repose, by the rapid firing of musketry ahead of us, and the conviction settled upon all at once, that Kerr had been attacked. The men one and all immediately jumped to their arms, and ran whooping and yelling up the road to

the assistance of Kerr. The company, under this latter Captain, were attacked whilst refreshing themselves in the tavern, but quickly jumped to where their muskets were stacked, and returned the fire from the chapparal. The firing from both sides was very animated; from every bush there appeared to pour out a blaze of fire. The Spaniards held their position well, though charged by the whole of our force, several successive times. They finally, however, gave up the chapparal, to reinforce a party on an eminence about a quarter of a mile from us. The number which attacked us from the chapparal was believed to have been the flanking party of the detachment on the hill. Having formed themselves upon the hill, they poured into the tavern yard, in which we had drawn ourselves up, a continual stream of bullets. We soon felt convinced that the yard was no place for us, so Crittenden ordered two companies to follow him; the remaining one to stay behind the pickets, and keep his rear open. For one hour that company remained in the pickets, its men being struck down here and there, by the bullets, which poured in upon them. At the expiration of this time, not seeing anything effected by Crittenden's movement, towards the enemy and fearful of being surrounded every moment, the men concluded to retreat, to a body of woods six or seven miles distant. After marching all the evening in the woods, we procured a guide, and reached Las Pozas about 11 o'clock, joined Lopez, and immediately took up the line of march over the mountains. Crittenden must have encountered the force on the hill, and coming back, not finding us, continued his march back to Morrillo, where, I have since ascertained he seized one of four vessels lying there, and put to sea, evidently with the intention of reaching America again, but was captured by a Spanish man of war, brought into the port of Havana; where, himself and men, as you have heard, paid the penalty of death.

Lopez continued the most of the time he remained in the mountains, in traversing those the least travelled, exhausting the strength of his men in the endeavour of reaching the patriots, whom he said numbered four thousand strong! Nearly every day he would assure the men that ere night-fall we would join the patriots. Poor, mis-guided men! how plainly you who are alive, now, perceive the delusion! the cheat! the base fraud! Patriots, it is true there are in

Cuba, but they are patriots to the cause of Cuba as it now exists. Where are all those towns that revolutionized in favor of government more republican! I do not believe a single town in Cuba ever attempted a revolution. It is my conviction that the petty clique in New Orleans, whose existence depended upon the exaltation of Cuba bonds, felt that, the precipice over which they must shortly fall, must be avoided by some desperate scheme. and hence the second abortive attempt to create sympathy in favor of Cuban patriots, struggling for liberty! When I reflect on the proceedings of the Arcade meeting, where the *Declaration Independence* of the Island of Cuba was read before a large multitude, and gulped down by about half of them, as having actually come from the patriots of the Island of Cuba; when I turn back and think of the prominence of the men in this expedition, who acted the same deceitful part in the other, and then look and see things as they actually are, peace, plenty, and quiet throughout the island, the masses devoted to the government, and individually contented with their sacred homes, where plentitude is heaped up around them, and want is a stranger — I bite my lips with anger, to think that these men cannot be made to suffer as those deluded young men have, who left their homes from the purest motives, to find themselves the followers of a traitor, deceived by their own countrymen, to retrieve his desperate fortunes. If there is any one who wishes to be convinced of the happy and contented state of the island, let him but come and see for himself; in all his travels his purse string will rarely have to be undrawn. The Cuban, whose heart is as liberal as his store house, will meet his every necessity — he has nothing to do but come and behold.

To continue my narrative, which I will now shortly bring to a close, we had been in the mountains about three days, when on the morning of the third day, we made the Lopez estate. The farm itself is a most magnificent one. It once belonged to the Lopez family, but was confiscated by reason of his treachery to the Queen of Spain. We were preparing ourselves to dine, when we were suddenly charged down upon, by a body of about fifty or sixty horsemen, whom we repulsed with a slight loss on their side. But their object, it was evident, was not to achieve any other advantage than to cause us to fall back, where a large body of lancers awaited this movement on our part. This we did not

do; but immediately on the repulse of the horsemen, we shouldered arms, left our unfinished dinners, and marched over into a large open field bordered on one side by a thick and bushy wood. Before we had quite reached the margin of this wood a destructive fire was opened upon us. We collected as rapidly as possible upon a little knoll in the field and returned the fire with some spirit. This engagement lasted but a short time. A number were killed and wounded on both sides, and, as if by mutual consent, both parties retired from the field. We took the mountain road, and commenced again the same old trudging up and down the mountains, expecting every day, from Lopez's protestations, to meet with the patriots. On the seventh day of our tramp in the mountains, we halted at a *rancho* about dark, for the purpose of taking supper, and halting for the night. The night we passed with out molestation; but in the morning whilst preparing breakfast, we were attacked in front and on our right flank, by a body Spanish troops. Finding ourselves in a bad scrape, we discharged our pieces, and retreated up a mountain thickly overgrown with the coffee plant. Our retreat was covered by one company, which kept up a continual fire on the advancing enemy. The latter kept up such a hot fire on us, that nothing but the whizzing of bullets could be heard. We speedily gained the top of the mountain, and then such another tumbling down the other side never was seen before. Men, horses and their riders, all in one promiscuous mass went helter-skelter down into the ravine beneath. It was not until your humble servant could gather himself at the bottom, that he could tell whether his feet formed the apex of his perpendicular or his head. The Spanish troops did not pursue us to the bottom; they contented themselves with plying us, with the contents of a small howitzer, mounted on the back of a mule, and several volleys of musketry. To the mountains we still clung; wearied and broken down; the men commenced throwing their guns and ammunition away; they wanted Lopez to leave the island. He still bolstered them up with the idea that there was no deceit in him; no, what he promised he made them believe would actually come to pass. Alas! too late they perceived the error of confiding in his promises! About four days after this defeat, all of us came near being destroyed. We were toiling our way late in the evening along a most irksome road; when the advance of the party suddenly perceived two sentinels, one on

each side of the road. We immediately retraced our steps, but the sentinels gave the alarm, and a large party of Spanish troops attacked our rear. We retreated quickly down each side of the road, behind the thick undergrowth which is so luxuriant around the mountains of this island. Some of our men were killed, and a few taken prisoners. From this defeat the men became separated; some went one way some another; not over six were together in any party; and, in many cases the men singly trudged their way over the mountains. For my part I tramped many a long and weary day, beneath a broiling sun, with naught but guavas and mangoes for my daily food. The day of this defeat was the last that Lopez and his men ever saw each other. He was captured shortly after, brought to this city, and nothing now remains but the recollection of his notorious deeds, not one virtue to link with his thousand crimes.

There are now in the prison in this city one hundred and fifty eight men, belonging to the late expedition, all remaining of the five hundred which left New-Orleans a little over a month ago. They are treated well, are generally in the enjoyment of very good spirits. It may be that a few more men are still left in the mountains, though the number cannot exceed two or three.

I will write you again, if anything of interest transpires. The late Spanish Consul of Spain, at New-Orleans yesterday paid a visit to the prisoners. I understand that he gave some words of encouragement to the prisoners. I am sorry that difficulties in New-Orleans were the cause of his arrival here, and hope that the *entente cordiale* has already been restored.

Yours

Respectfully

(signed) C. N. Horwell.

Messrs. Maginnis & Co.
New-Orleans.

DECLARATION OF JAMES S^t LEVI

I, James S^t Levi, make the following declaration, relative to an expedition to Cuba, of which I was a volunteer. I was induced to join it, by the false reports made to me by the emissaries of N. Lopez. He said that the inhabitants of Cuba were oppressed and vexed to death by the despotism

of the Spaniards: that there were five thousand Cuban patriots ready to take up arms in favor of the cause of liberty, and that Lopez would join them; that if five hundred American patriots would go with him as a body guard, to allow him to land in safety, they should receive from two to four thousand dollars each: and if they should do so, they would assist an oppressed people. Influenced by these representations, I embarked in the expedition, and we left in the steamer *Pampero*, leaving New Orleans on the 3rd of August. We arrived at the Balize on the fourth day, from which place one hundred and fifty of our companions returned to New Orleans, some by their own wish and others sent back. Two days afterwards, we arrived at Key West, and the day following we made the shores of Cuba; taking a pilot, he took us beneath a fort, the name of which I do not recollect, from which we drew off, without receiving any injury: on the following night, at about 12 o'clock we landed at Playitas: our number was reckoned to be about five hundred and fifty: we remained under arms that night, and on the following morning, General Lopez with three hundred and fifty men took up the line of march in the direction of Las Pozas. The *Pampero* went to sea, and Colonel Crittenden remained on the shore of the sea, in order to escort the stores: he had with him about two hundred men. We arrived at las Pozas by night-fall in good spirits, as we believed that we were following a good cause. We remained undisturbed all that night, but next morning we were attacked by a body of Spanish troops, in which encounter we lost about fifty men, killed and wounded; nevertheless we maintained our position until night, when Captain Kelly arrived with forty men, who informed us that the troops under Crittenden had been attacked, and that he and those who accompanied him, were all that had escaped destruction. I forgot to say that amongst the wounded were General Pragay, the second in command, and our Colonel Downman.

This news disconcerted us; but Lopez told us not to be alarmed; that he would take us immediately to a place in the mountains, where the patriots were hidden, where the devil himself could not attack us. Fatigued as we were with long marches, and fasting and continual fighting, we directed our course towards the mountains, marching all that night and a part of the next day, when we came to a halt, and killed an ox, and made a meal. After resting six hours,

we recommenced our march in the direction of our destination. Promises were continued to be made to us, without our meeting a single friend, until we arrived at an estate which Lopez said once belonged to him: we were attacked, but our loss was small, and we made our escape. We continued all the next day on the march, when the rain caught us, and fell in such torrents that all our ammunition was spoilt. With all this, Lopez encouraged us to enter the mountains, and he told us every day that he received important advices from different parts, which informed him that the ranks of the patriots were continually increasing. This continued until we were again attacked and beaten. In his engagement we lost all our companions, with the exception of about one hundred, with whom Lopez took another direction across the woods, in which we were two days, with nothing to eat, but a horse. We were dying from hunger, when we were again attacked and beaten; then it was I found out that I had been deceived by a man who conducted himself as a traitor to his country, and not as its defender; On this account I deserted, and hastened to give myself up to the authorities of the country, in whose hands I now am, hoping they may treat me with lenity.

As an excuse for my conduct, I have to say, that I have been grossly deceived by Lopez and his party; that I engaged blindly confiding in them, that as soon as I found out my error, I hastened to deliver myself up, and am now a prisoner. I beg for pardon, and trust that government, will take into consideration the deception that has been practiced on me. I am an American, eighteen years of age. God in his mercy grant, that the Government which I have offended, may take pity on my folly.

Bahía-Honda

August 31st 1821. (signed) James S^t Levi

DECLARATION OF LAINE.

Of this declaration, which is long, I take only that part referring to the expedition in Cuba, the other part referring to things that are well known to the people in the States, it is unnecessary to insert:

The declarant states: that the expedition disembarked at Morrillo, at 11 P M on the 11th of August, without any

opposition, other than that of a few shots discharged by the country people from Morrillo, who afterwards fled; they found the beach deserted, that Colonel Crittenden remained there with nearly two hundred of the 550 men who landed, to guard the stores, the rest under Lopez marched to Las Pozas, without meeting anybody on the road, but country people, who fled at their approach; that on their arrival at Las Pozas they found the place abandoned, and were unable to induce the inhabitants to return to their houses, that on the day following, they were attacked, by the Queen's troops, who retired afterwards, leaving them in possession of the place. In the action they lost General Pragay, a Colonel whose name he has forgot. Captain Oberto and about fifty killed and wounded. The disanimation felt by the men, on finding the people did not join them, was increased to the utmost, when they were attacked by the troops, that they expected would join them; on this account, Lopez determined to take to the mountains, with the intention of crossing the island to Pinal del Rio, that through mistake or design, the guide took them to the coffee plantation, called *Frias*, where they were again attacked, and lost five men, which with those which had dropped off on the road, reduced our force to about two hundred and twenty men, amongst whom we had some twelve or fourteen wounded. From this place, we proceeded to Brujo, thence to Union, where we passed the night; thence we went to Candelaria, where on the 21st our force not numbering two hundred, whilst at breakfast, we were surprised, attacked and dispersed, not more than about one hundred men keeping together; about one third of whom were without arms, these entered the woods, with nothing else to eat than a horse, and some corn and wild plants. The declarant on coming to a public road, left the main body and delivered himself up.

THE ACTION AT LAS POZAS

The following is the official account of the attack on Pozas, the receipt and publication of which, was delayed by the unfortunate wound received by that gallant and worthy General, in the action at Frias:

Coffee Estate of Laborin August 16th 1851

Your Excellency:—As I before made known to your Excellency, upon my arrival at Bahia Honda, that the pirates had taken position at the town of Las Pozas, I proceeded to that point, distant about four leagues, starting at two in the morning, with the grenadiers and chasseurs of the regiment of Leon, the grenadiers of Barcelona and the chasseurs of La Corona. It was about eight in the morning, when we came in sight of the place. I reconnoitered the town in two different directions, without being able to observe any sign of occupation, by the pirates, as they had no advanced guard nor had they taken, to all appearance, the ordinary precautions in warfare. I then ordered Captain Lloréns to march to the right of the town, with his company of chasseurs, and spread out the first half, and open fire, should he see the enemy; which he did. With the rest of the forces, I marched to the support of said company, as the pirates immediately covered the houses, at the openings of the streets, from which they also fired, through loopholes and had thrown up barricades at the ends of the streets. They kept up on us a deadly fire, which caused us to lose the second in command of the regiment of Leon, Señor Nadal. The first half of this corps charged with bayonets, with inexplicable firmness, leaving all dead, who had dared to post themselves in the first house, amongst whom was the Hungarian General Pray. The fire was kept up with much animation on both sides, but observing that as they were under cover, our fire caused little effect, whilst theirs did considerable execution, I feigned a retreat, to draw them into the open ground; this had the desired effect, and we gave them a charge with bayonets, which left ten of their number dead on the spot. The enemy once again under shelter, his number being about equal to ours, I concluded to limit my operations to impede his egress until our fatigued troops, should rest, as they had been for 30 hours without any. I then marched towards Corralillo midway between Las Pozas and Morrillo for the purpose cutting off all communication, and prevent his receiving any reinforcements. The result of this action is 30 deaths on the side of the enemy and without doubt the number of wounded greater. On our part, on account of the disadvantage under which we fought, and the daring impetuosity of the troops,

we have to lament that nine officer have been wounded, and more than one hundred men put *hors du combat*; however, it will serve to shake the self confidence of the pirate band, as it must have shown them, that they had calculated upon the metal of our gallant soldiers, without their host; in fact, they became so disanimated that the same night, they slipped off suddenly, and marched to hide themselves in the mountains, where they hope to save themselves, without calculating upon the want of provisions, and the activity with which our troops will hunt them up. With this object in view, I continue with the column under my immediate command, in pursuit of them; hoping soon to be able to inform Your Excellency of the result of my operations. I am, Sir,

Your Very Obt Svt
(signed) Manuel Ena

To His Excellency
the Captain General.

Poor Ena was shot by the retreating, énémy at Frias, in which action few persons were hurt, and as will be seen by the different letters and declarations that I publish, without the enemy being aware of the loss, they had created. He died of his wound, and his disconsolate widow has returned to her parents in the Península. Notwithstanding this loss, and that of other officers and troops, and the outrages of the savages at New Orleans, upon the unoffending Spaniards, the Americans here have been untouched, owing no doubt to the highminded and noble nature of the Spaniard, so different from the low and brutish nature of the mixed American race, which will become of all races, the most vile and detested in creation; and be it known, that it is no Spaniard that writes this, but one who loves to cherish the memory of Washington, and the good men of his day, as much as he hates the miserable unprincipled groveling Americans of the present day.

It may be as well to inform the reader here, that the number of Spanish troops. killed in the different actions was seventy one, and the wounded one hundred and seventy four; for the latter, and the relations of the former, subscriptions have been opened in Havana, and the amount collected to this date is \$184.000, besides which, a benefit at the Tacon theatre, produced \$ 8.068 clear of expences.

A list of the prisoners, the survivors of the Piratical horde, which sailed from New Orleans on the 3 of August and landed in Cuba by the 11,th and was completely broken up, and its chief executed, in twenty-one days from the time of its landing at Morrillo.

NAMES.	AGE.	COUNTRY.	TRADES.
Antonio Romero.....	26	Navarre.....	Farmer.
Francisco Iglesias.....	24	Zamora.....	Ditto.
Antonio Hernandez....	22	Havana.....	Painter.
Julio Chassaña.....	27	Ditto.....	Silversmith.
Antonio L. Alfonso....	31	Do.....	Doctor.
Miguel Guerra.....	26	Do.....	Shoemaker.
Martin Melésimo.....	29	Do.....	Segar-maker.
Manuel Martinez.....	35	Do.....	Ditto.
Manuel Fleuri.....	32	Do.....	Printer.
Pedro Nolasco.....	18	Do.....	Cook.
Francisco A: Lainé....	27	Alquizar.....	Teacher.
Manuel Diaz.....	34	Bayamo.....	Trader.
Pedro M. Lopez.....	24	Venezuela....	Ditto.
Eduardo Sarmeron....	27	Verja.....	Shoemaker.
James Smith.....	29	Leydon.....	Farmer.
Thomas H. Lee.....	19	New London..	Clerk.
Robert Shuets.....	24	Germany.....	Joiner.
Dandridge Seay.....	21	S. Carolina...	Engineer.
Harney William.....	48	Connecticut...	Farmer.
Franklin Boyd.....	21	New York....	Engineer.
Conrad Paratolt.....	17	Germany.....	Clerk.
Bernard Allen.....	18	Dublin.....	Carpenter.
Louis Bawder.....	37	Germany.....	Barkeeper.
Benjamin Hanna.....	22	Pennsylvania.	Farmer.
James M. Wilson.....	23	Indiana.....	Clerk.
Patrick Coleman.....	29	Ireland.....	Laborer.
Michael L. Hefrow....	21	New York....	Steward.
John Murphy.....	23	Ireland.....	Waiter.
Burton Fagan.....	19	Ohio.....	Boatman.